

Loosening the media / broadcast ownership rules would be a complete failure of the FCC's responsibility to protect the public's interest with regard to broadcast media. The proposal might well improve the profitability of the media industry, but it would severely impair the general public's ability to get quality programming. One only needs to look at the results of the 1996 Telecommunications Act to see how bad it could get. Looser ownership rules will destroy the few remaining independent media outlets. This would be a travesty and a major blow to democracy. Our democracy depends on a free and diverse media. Any move to restrict media freedom or diversity would be a travesty. For these reasons please do not go forward with the Broadcast Ownership proposal.